

## County of Los Angeles CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICE

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June 17, 2014

To:

Supervisor Don Knabe, Chairman

Supervisor Gloria Molina

Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky

Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich

From:

William T Fujioka

Chief Executive Officer

WASHINGTON, D.C. UPDATE ON FEDERAL FISCAL YEAR 2015 LABOR/HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES/EDUCATION APPROPRIATIONS

This memorandum is to provide the Board with an update on Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2015 Labor/Health and Human Services (HHS)/Education appropriations legislation.

The Senate Labor/HHS/Education Appropriations Subcommittee approved its FFY 2015 appropriations bill on June 10, 2014, but the full committee did not mark up the bill on June 12, 2014 as had been expected. It is believed that the full committee mark-up was not held so Senators Begich (D-AK), Landrieu (D-LA), and Pryor (D-AR), who face tough re-election races, would not have to vote on controversial amendments relating to the Affordable Care Act (ACA). The House Appropriations Committee has not yet scheduled a mark-up of its FFY 2015 Labor/HHS/Education appropriations bill.

The Labor/HHS/Education appropriations bill is the least likely of the 12 individual annual appropriations bills to be enacted as a freestanding bill. Congress has not enacted an annual Labor/HHS/Education appropriations bill since 2005, and neither house has passed a version of the bill since 2009. As in past years, Labor/HHS/Education programs, instead, are likely to be funded in FFY 2015 through a full-year Continuing Resolution or omnibus appropriations bill.

## Summary of Senate FFY 2015 Labor/HHS/Education Appropriations Bill

The Senate Appropriations Committee has not yet released the text or detailed summary of the FFY 2015 Labor/HHS/Education appropriations bill, which was approved by its subcommittee. Instead, the Committee only has released a press statement, which has a brief summary, but no accompanying funding table. According to this summary, the bill provides a total of \$156.773 billion in base discretionary funding, the same as in FFY 2014, which means that program funding increases are offset by a corresponding aggregate amount of cuts in other programs. The Committee's bill summary cites programs receiving funding increases, but not reductions.

The Senate bill's largest funding increase is from \$912 million in FFY 2014 to \$1.940 billion in FFY 2015 in funding for HHS to assist unaccompanied immigrant minors, who have been entering the country in large numbers across the U.S.-Mexican border. Other FFY 2015 funding increases of County interest include:

- Head Start funding is increased by \$145 million to \$8.743 billion in FFY 2015;
- Child Care and Development Block Grant funding is increased by \$100 million to \$2.458 billion;
- Preschool Development Grant funding is increased by \$100 million to \$350 million; and
- Workforce Investment Act funding is increased by \$36 million to \$2.624 billion.

The bill also includes \$10 million for Elder Justice Act adult protective services, which was authorized under the ACA, but never before funded.

We will continue to keep you advised.

WTF:RA MR:MT:ma

c: All Department Heads Legislative Strategist